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Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. TA NICE. Application Number 09/771,273 **TRANSMITTAL** 01/26/2001 Filing Date Akihiro Shimotsu **FORM** First Named Inventor (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) Group Art Unit J. Doan **Examiner Name** A0-234 US 7 Attorney Docket Number Total Number of Pages in This Submission **ENCLOSURES**

(check all that apply) Assignment Papers (for an Application) After Allowance Communication Fee Transmittal Form to Group Appeal Communication Board Fee Attached Drawing(s) of Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to Group Licensing-related Papers 1 Amendment / Reply (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Petition After Final **Proprietary Information** Petition to Convert to a Affidavits/declaration(s) Provisional Application Status Letter Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address Other Enclosure(s) (please Extension of Time Request identify below): Terminal Disclaimer **Express Abandonment Request** Request for Refund Information Disclosure Statement CD, Number of CD(s) _ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) Remarks Response to Missing Parts/ Amendment "A" Incomplete Application Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT Firm A.A. Tirva Individual name Signature ' 01/24/2003 Date CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE

APPLICATION OF: Akihiro Shimotsu

SERIAL NO.: 09/771,273

FILED: January 26, 2001

FOR: FERRULE FOR AN OPTICAL FIBER

AND MANUFACTURING METHOD

THEREOF

EXAMINER: J. Doan

ART UNIT: 2874

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: A0-234 US

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that this document along with any documents referred to as being attached, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

January 24, 2002

Kerri Richardson



In response to the Office Action of November 18, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Delete claims 1 and 7 as filed in the original application and replace them with the following:

1. (Amended) A ferrule for an optical fiber connector comprising:

a capillary having a pair of opposing ends, an outer surface extending between the opposing ends and a hole extending between the opposing ends for insertion of an optical fiber strand therein; and

a flange molded as a separate component from the capillary onto the capillary outer surface intermediate the capillary opposing ends such that the capillary outer surface proximate cach opposing end is not covered by the molded flange.